

Application Serial No.: 09/812,627
Response to May 18, 2006 Non-Final Office Action

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 5, 7 – 21 and 26 are in the application. Claims 1 – 4, 10 – 14, 16, 21, and 26 were previously presented; claims 6 and 22 – 25 are canceled; and claims 5, 7 – 9, 15, 17 – 20 remain unchanged from the original versions thereof. Claims 1, 16, and 21 are the independent claims herein.

No new matter has been added to the application. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

The Office Action correctly noted the error in the claim listing provided with the response filed with the Office February 15, 2006. Applicant further appreciates the Examiner's recognition of the *bona fide* attempt by Applicant to provide a fully responsive Response in a timely manner.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims listing provided herewith correctly list the status of the claims, as previously submitted in Applicant's Response dated July 29, 2005.

Furthermore, the remaining remarks of the Response dated February 15, 2006 are reiterated below for the convenience of the Examiner and Office's review.

Requirements for Information under 37 CFR 1.105

In the present application, the Examiner made a request requiring Applicant and the Assignee to provide information under 37 CFR 1.105. The Examiner stated in the Requirement for Information that the requested information is reasonably necessary to the examination of the application. Applicant traverses the Requirement for Information.

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are fully supported by the originally filed specification that was filed on March 20, 2001. Applicant notes that Office has previously considered the application and issued a non-final office action (NFOA) dated 12/02/03, and a final office action (FOA) dated 11/23/2004. In reply to

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the FOA dated 11/23/2004, Applicant timely filed a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and an amendment on 7/29/2005. Applicant further notes that Examiner N. Subramanian has been the assigned Examiner throughout the prosecution of the present application.

Despite the Office's numerous prior considerations of the application, the Examiner first makes the pending Requirement for Information on 9/15/05, almost two years after the mailing date of the initial NFOA of 12/02/03.

Accordingly, the pending Requirement for Information is traversed for at least placing an undue burden on Applicant. MPEP 704.11(b) When May a Requirement for Information Be Made states,

A requirement for information made after the first action on the merits may be appropriate when the application file justifies asking the applicant if he or she has information that would be relevant to the patentability determination. It is rarely appropriate to require information because of a lack of relevant prior art after the first action on the merits.

Applicant respectfully submits that there is nothing in the application file or art cited by the Examiner that demonstrates that the disclosed and claimed subject matter cannot or has not been adequately searched by the Office among, for example, issued patents and typical sources of non-patent literature.

However, in an attempt to advance prosecution of the application Applicant will reply to each enumerated requirement for information by providing (I) the information required, or (II) a statement that the information required to be submitted is unknown to or is not readily available to the party or parties from which it was requested, as provided under 37 CFR 1.105 to constitute a complete reply to the Requirement for Information.

- (1) *A copy of any non-patent literature, published application, or patent (U.S. or foreign), by any of the inventors, or information that was used in the*

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Invention process, such as by designing around or providing a solution to accomplish an invention result.

In reply to this requirement, Applicant respectfully submits that all such required information has already been cited in Information Disclosure Statements filed with the Office (See I.D.S. dated 3/18/03 and List of References cited by Applicant and Considered by Examiner, dated 12/02/03). An additional Information Disclosure Statement is filed herewith to comply with this requirement. Additional information is unknown to or is not readily available to the party or parties from which it was requested.

- (2) *A working prototype of the invention that can be tested by the Examiner. Is the invention currently available commercially? In response to this requirement, please provide the names of any products or services that have incorporated the claimed subject matter.*

In reply to this requirement, Applicant respectfully submits that a working prototype of the claimed invention is not readily available for testing by the Examiner. However, a demonstration of the claimed invention may be provided to the Examiner during an interview. The claimed invention may be commercially available. Furthermore, some products or services incorporating the claimed subject matter may be included in systems offered by Regulatory DataCorp, International LLC, a licensee of the assignee of the present application (See, <http://www.regulatorydatacorp.com/index.html>).

- (3) *The trade names and providers of any products or services in competition with the invention.*

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In reply to this requirement, Applicant respectfully submits that the following trade names and providers of products or services that may be in competition with the claimed invention may include:

WorldCheck (See https://www.world-check.com/portal/mod_perl), SAS, Thompson Financial, Factiva, World Compliance, Complanet, Prime and Bridger

(4) *Identification of the true assignees of the current invention.*

In reply to this requirement, Applicant respectfully submits that Goldman, Sachs, & Co. is the true assignee of the application.

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the information provided in reply to the Requirement for Information is not admitted as prior art by Applicant. That is, Applicant disclaims that any of the products, services, information, and documents identified or submitted herewith constitute "prior art."

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CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-5985.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date